

## Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 IO-13 USIA-06

COME-00 TRSE-00 EPG-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

/053 W

-----048819 230706Z /21/13

R 222020Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0029

USDA/FAS WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y-ADDITION OF ADDRESSEE/AGRICULTURE

USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY; USDA FOR DAIRY, LIVESTOCK

AND POULTRY DIVISION, FAS; AND STEINMETZ, APHIS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, GW

SUBJECT: STATUS OF EC COMMISSION PROPOSAL ON POULTRY

SPIN CHILLING

SUMMARY: THE FRG AND THE OTHER EC MEMBER COUNTRIES  
ARE EXPECTED TO AGREE TO THE BASIC PROVISIONS  
OF THE EC COMMISSION'S DRAFT DIRECTIVE ESTABLISHING  
DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR THE CONTINUED USE OF IMMERSION  
CHILLING OF POULTRY MEAT. THE NEW PROVISIONS ARE NOT  
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EXPECTED TO BECOME EFFECTIVE BEFORE JULY 1, 1978. END  
SUMMARY.

1. THE EC COMMISSION IN LATE 1976 PREPARED A PROPOSAL  
FOR A DIRECTIVE AMENDING EC DIRECTIVE 71/118 OF  
FEBRUARY 15, 1971, ON SANITARY REQUIREMENTS FOR TRADE  
IN POULTRY MEAT. (THE ORIGINAL PROPOSAL WAS PUBLISHED

IN EC OFFICIAL JOURNAL C 200 OF AUGUST 26, 1976).

THIS DIRECTIVE WOULD ESTABLISH DETAILED GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF IMMERSION CHILLING OF POULTRY MEAT AND THEREBY PERMIT THE CONTINUED USE OF AN "IMPROVED," STRICTLY DEFINED SPIN-CHILLING PROCESS FOR POULTRY MEAT PRODUCED WITHIN THE EC AREA AND IMPORTED FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

2. ACCORDING TO RELIABLE INFORMATION, ALL EC MEMBER COUNTRIES INCLUDING GERMANY NOW BASICALLY ACCEPT THE EC COMMISSION'S DRAFT DIRECTIVE ALLOWING THE USE OF IMMERSION CHILLING FOR POULTRY MEAT ON A STRICTLY CONTROLLED BASIS. THE STANDING VETERINARY GROUP IS CURRENTLY DISCUSSING CERTAIN TECHNICAL DETAILS SUCH AS THE RATE OF WATER RENEWAL IN THE SYSTEM, AS WELL AS ADMINISTRATIVE QUESTIONS, SUCH AS THE TRANSITION PERIOD GRANTED. THE USE OF SPIN-CHILLING SYSTEMS WHICH DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE PROPOSED DIRECTIVE WILL BE PROHIBITED WITHIN THE EC. IMPORTED POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE SAME STANDARDS.

3. BASED ON THE PRESENT INFORMATION, IT APPEARS LIKELY THAT THE VETERINARY GROUP IN BRUSSELS MIGHT REACH AGREEMENT ON THE REMAINING TECHNICAL QUESTIONS SOMETIME IN SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER. COUNCIL APPROVAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF THE FINAL DIRECTIVE COULD THEN BE EXPECTED BEFORE THE END OF 1977, WITH THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DATE OF APPLICATION BEING JULY 1, 1978.

4. BY ITS GENERAL AGREEMENT TO AN EC-WIDE APPROVAL OF AN IMMERSION CHILLING PROCESS, THE FRG HAS ESSENTIALLY GIVEN UP ITS STRICT OPPOSITION TO THE CONTINUED USE OF ANY IMMERSION CHILLING PROCESS USED IN POULTRY MEAT PRODUCTION. IT FURTHERMORE INDICATES THAT FEDMINHEALTH HAS FINALLY DROPPED ITS ORIGINAL FIRM INTENTION TO INTRODUCE ON A MANDATORY BASIS THE SPRAY COOLING AND AIR COOLING SYSTEMS. STOESEL

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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